

# Worksession

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	7
<b>Meeting Date</b>	March 28, 2005
<b>Prepared By</b>	Jessie Carpenter Deputy Clerk
<b>Approved By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Resolution Regarding Transportation of Hazardous Materials
<b>Background</b>	<p>The City held a public forum on rail transport of hazardous cargo on March 9, 2005.</p> <p>Prior to that, the City Council has held several discussions on the issue (March 15, 2004; November 1, 2004; and January 18, 2005).</p> <p>Councilmember Austin-Lane has requested that discussion of a draft resolution be placed on the March 28 agenda. The resolution endorses a regional approach to banning the transportation of hazardous materials by rail through the Metro DC area..</p>
<b>Policy</b>	The City Council is concerned with the health and safety of city residents.
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	None.
<b>Attachments</b>	Draft Resolution Endorsing a Regional Approach to a Ban on the Transportation of Hazardous Materials by Rail (prepared by Councilmember Austin-Lane)
<b>Recommendation</b>	The Council Council will discuss the resolution.
<b>Special Consideration</b>	

Introduced by:

**DRAFT**

**Resolution #2005-\_\_  
Endorsing a Regional Approach to  
a Ban on the Transportation of Hazardous Materials by Rail**

**WHEREAS,** the events of September 11, 2001, demonstrated that the Washington DC area is a target for terrorists; and

**WHEREAS,** The potential devastating regional impacts of a rail disaster involving toxic chemicals have been detailed by experts in testimony before the Takoma Park City Council and the DC Council; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Takoma Park has a portion of the CSX railroad passing through the City limits on which toxic chemicals are routinely transported; and

**WHEREAS,** the DC Council voted on February 1, 2005 to ban four classes of toxic chemicals from transport through DC on the CSX line if they are not intended for DC delivery (Council Bill 15-525, the Terrorism Prevention and Safety in Hazardous Materials Transportation Act of 2005).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

1. the City Council desires a unified region-wide stance to restrict the transport of deadly materials in our region consistent with the legislation passed by the DC Council; and
2. the City Council recognizes the important step taken by the DC Council to protect residents in the Nation's Capital; and
3. the City Council urges the federal government to reinforce this action with a similar ban; and
4. the City Council urges CSX to comply with the ban and reroute the four types of toxins to the west of the DC Metro area on the Norfolk Southern line; and
5. as the City of Takoma Park is a member of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG), the City Council requests that the full MWCOG Board devote attention to this issue to further the goal of a region-wide ban.